

Message Text

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15

ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OIC-04 AEC-11

AECE-00 DRC-01 /163 W

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P R 011832Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 409

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T VIENNA 9036

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: DATA ISSUE

1. AS REPORTED VIENNA 9024, AD HOC GROUP ON OCTOBER 31 APPROVED FOR INTERIM USE FIGURES TRANSMITTED BY NATO SYG. GROUP SPOKESMAN QUARLES USED THE 777,000 FOR NATO VIS-A-VIS "SOMETHING OVER 900,000 FOR WARSAW PACT" IN HIS PRESS BACKGROUNDER OCTOBER 31. OTHER ALLIED REPS MAY USE THE AUTHORIZED FIGURES IN INDIVIDUAL BACKGROUNDING DURING THE NEXT DAYS.

AS DEPARTMENT HAS POINTED OUT, RATIOS ARE MERELY A STOP-GAP AND ARE NOT SATISFACTORY FOR USE WITH THE PRESS AND MORE PARTICULARLY WITH THE EAST. AS A NEXT SETP, THEREFORE, WE WOULD LIKE TO GET SPECIFIC AGREEMENT AT NATO TO USE THE 925,000 FIGURE RATHER THAN THE "SOMETHING OVER

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900,000" FORMULA, AGREEMENT ON THE TOTAL OF PACT

TANKS IN ACTIVE UNITS PLUS STORAGE, AND ON SOVIET FORCES IN HUNGARY, HUNGARIAN FORCES, AND TANKS OF THESE TWO FORCES.

3. WE WOULD HOPE THAT AGREEMENT ON THESE FIGURES WOULD, IF POSSIBLE, BE REACHED IN NATO WITHIN A WEEK SINCE WE MUST BE PREPARED FOR CHALLENGES BY SOVIETS OF THE DISPARITIES BETWEEN NATO AND WARSAW PACT FORCES WE WILL BE DESCRIBING FOR THEM IN GREATER DETAIL. WE ASSUME THAT NATO WILL THEN PROCEED TO TRY TO REACH AGREEMENT AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE ON OTHER ITEMS OF THE BREAKDOWN IN THE DEPARTMENT'S RECENT DATA MESSAGE -- STATE 211555.HUMES

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NNN

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